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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO: BAIDA, BENGHAZI, JIDDA, TUNIS

RECEIVED JUL 23 4 08 PM 1968

FROM : Amembassy TRIPOLI

DATE: 22 July 1968

SUBJECT: Harvard University Interest in Libya

REF :

Professor A.J. Meyer of the Harvard Center for Middle East Studies visited Libya from July 8 to 15. Upon his departure, he informed the Ambassador of three possible areas of cooperation between the Libyan Ministry of Planning and Development and Harvard University.

1. Libya's Minister of Planning has requested Professor Meyer's assistance in recruiting a senior economist from the United States for the Ministry of Planning. The Minister, Dr. Attigah, intends to recruit directly for this position on the basis of suggestions made by Professor Meyer. Among the names suggested to Dr. Attigah was that of Mr. Norman Burns, former President of the American University of Beirut.

2. Professor Meyer has discussed with Dr. Attigah the possible development of a research project similar to that being conducted by a Harvard Fellow, Mr. John Simmons under A.I.D. sponsorship in Tripoli.

3. Harvard University has apparently proposed to the Government of Saudi Arabia the sending periodically of a group of former professors to review with the Saudi Arabian Government its development plans and planning process. If the Saudis agree to this, Professor Meyer would propose that the group establish a similar relationship with Libya.

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According to Professor Meyer, Dr. Attigah showed very great interest in this possibility.

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